

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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I MET WITH CHANCELLOR ERHARD TODAY FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE HE ASSUMED OFFICE. THE DISCUSSION CENTERED AROUND HIS VISIT TO THE US, WHICH HE HAS APPEARED RELUCTANT TO FINALIZE UNTIL HE ACTUALLY BECAME CHANCELLOR. NEITHER HE NOR I WAS AWARE AT THE TIME OF THE PREMATURE LEAK OF HIS PLANS, WHICH HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SUBSEQUENT TELEPHONE CALLS BETWEEN THE DEPT AND THE EMBASSY.

THE CHANCELLOR SAID THAT HE INTENDED TO GO TO PARIS TO VISIT DE GAULLE ON NOVEMBER 21-22, AND THAT HE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO

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ACCEPT THE PRESIDENT'S INVITATION TO COME TO WASHINGTON NOVEMBER 25 TO 27. HIS TENTATIVE PLAN IS TO PROCEED FROM WASHINGTON TO NEW YORK ON THE 28TH AND TO RETURN TO GERMANY THAT EVENING.

THE CHANCELLOR ADVISED THAT HE HAD NOT YET DECIDED ON THE COMPOSITION OF HIS PARTY (HE DID NOT SAY WHETHER OR NOT MRS. ERHARD WOULD ACCOMPANY HIM), ALTHOUGH IN MY SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN SCHROEDER IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE EXPECTED TO GO. THE CHANCELLOR WILL FLY DIRECTLY TO WASHINGTON BY SPECIAL LUFTHANSA PLANE, THEN TO NEW YORK AND THENCE DIRECTLY BACK TO GERMANY.

IN DISCUSSING WITH THE CHANCELLOR HIS PREFERENCES AS TO THE PROGRAM THAT MIGHT BE ARRANGED FOR HIM HE MENTIONED, IN ADDITION TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY, THAT HE WOULD PARTICULARLY LIKE TO SEE UNDER SECRETARY BALL, SECRETARY MCNAMARA, AND GOVERNOR HERTER. OTHERS MENTIONED WERE SECRETARY DILLON AND WOODS, PRESIDENT WORLD BANK. HE REACTED FAVORABLY TO THE IDEA OF A NATIONAL PRESS CLUB LUNCHEON AND A LUNCHEON BY SENATOR RULBRIGHT WITH THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THESE COULD BE ARRANGED.

SCHROEDER, IN SEPARATE MEETING LATER, WAS SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE PRESS CLUB LUNCH BECAUSE OF POSSIBILITY THAT QUESTIONS

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MIGHT BE ASKED THAT WOULD BE EMBARRASSING TO CHANCELLOR AT  
BEGINNING OF HIS REGIME. HOWEVER HE INDICATED THAT WHATEVER THE  
CHANCELLOR DECIDED WOULD BE AGREEABLE.

WITH RESPECT TO THE NEW YORK PART OF HIS VISIT, ERHARD INDICATED  
THAT HE WOULD BE GLAD TO ADDRESS A SUITABLE DINNER AUDIENCE THE  
EVENING OF THE 28TH. HIS PREFERENCE WAS THAT MR. MCCLOY, IF  
WILLING, BE ASKED TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ARRANGING THE  
EVENING, POSSIBLY UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF COUNCIL OF FOREIGN  
RELATIONS, WHICH HE HAS ADDRESSED BEFORE AND VIEWS FAVORABLY, OR  
A SUITABLE GROUP OF BANKERS OR BUSINESSMEN, OR A COMBINATION OF  
BOTH. THERE WERE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE HE WISHED TO SEE IN NEW YORK.

AS FOR SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED WITH THE PRESIDENT AND OTHER  
OFFICIALS, THE CHANCELLOR PUT NUMBER ONE THE POSSIBILITY OF  
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO RUSSIA, QUESTION WHICH HE HAS CAUTIOUSLY  
MENTIONED TO ME BEFORE (SEE EMBTELS 1215 AND 993) AND WHICH WAS  
ONLY LAST EVENING FURTHER ELABORATED ON BY STATE SEC WESTRICK;  
ALSO, EAST-WEST TRADE; EAST-WEST AGREEMENTS; THE KENNEDY ROUND;  
AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS; MONETARY AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS. HE  
THOUGHT THAT PROBABLY BERLIN AND REUNIFICATION SHOULD ALSO BE  
INCLUDED, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT APPEAR TO PLACE GREAT EMPHASIS  
ON THIS.

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IT WAS AGREED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE VISIT  
FOR THE TIME BEING (THIS HAS BEEN OVERTAKEN BY THE LEAK).

COMMENT: IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE DEPT WOULD ADVISE  
SOONEST FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF DATES OF VISIT, AND REACTIONS TO  
TENTATIVE SUGGESTIONS GIVEN AS TO PROGRAM. I WOULD ALSO  
APPRECIATE ANY DETAILS THAT SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO THE CHANCELLOR  
WITH RESPECT TO THE ARRANGEMENTS THAT WE WILL MAKE ON OUR SIDE  
FOR HIS VISIT. SHOULD WE RAISE THE QUESTION OF MRS. ERHARD  
ACCOMPANYING HIM? WITH THIS INFORMATION IN HAND I CAN PROCEED  
WITH REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE PRECISE PROGRAM.

GP-4.  
MCGHEE  
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